

SEP 27 2005

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**FACSIMILE COVER LETTER**

To: 1) Technology Center 3600 - Art Unit 3624  
2) John R. Love, Director - Technology Center 3600

Firm: USPTO

Facsimile No.: 571-273-8300

From: William Bailey (on behalf of John R. Lane]

Date: September 27, 2005

Re: U.S. Patent Application No. 10/049,331, filed 5 June 2002  
Our Ref.: 681008-2000

No. of Pages: 2  
(including cover page)

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**URGENT**

Gentlemen:

In response to a status inquiry faxed to Director John J. Love on Sept. 20, we received the attached notice. Since this application was filed on June 5, 2002, please clarify whether the stated "28 month" estimate for receipt of an Office Action is from the filing date (which would make it **October 2004** [last year] or 28 months from the date of the notice (which would make it January of 2008 (which will be **5 years, 7 months (67 months)** from the filing date. This seems quite a long time, even with backlogs.

Please provide further specific clarification of these dates.

Sincerely yours,

William Bailey  
[on behalf of John R. Lane, Reg. No. 35,582]

**CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE**

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DATE: 09/23/2005

DOCKETED

To: Applicant of Serial Number 10049331  
Filed on 05-JUN-2002  
(Art Unit 3624)

It is estimated that this application will receive an Office action in approximately 28 months. This is an estimate that is based on the current inventory level of applications filed in this art area and the current staffing levels in this Art Unit. The USPTO is dedicated to minimizing first action and total pendency, and we are targeting resources to help address backlogs in art areas with high new application filings. Thank you for your inquiry.

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